Application for United States Patent

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

<u>DISK DRIVE DEVICE</u>

the specification of which:
(check one)

    <u>X</u> (is attached hereto)

    ___ was filed on _____,

        as Application Serial No. _____

        and was amended on _____. (if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56*

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

			priority claimed	
<u>2000-123264</u>	<u>Japan</u>	<u>24/04/2000</u>	<u>X</u>	___
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	yes	no
<u>2000-123265</u>	<u>Japan</u>	<u>24/04/2000</u>	<u>X</u>	___
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	yes	no
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	yes	no

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status: patented, pending, abandoned)

Power of Attorney: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint Sean M. McGinn, Reg. No. 34, 386, and Frederick W. Gibb, III, Reg. No. 37,629, as attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. All correspondence should be directed to **McGinn & Gibb, PLLC, 8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200, Vienna, Virginia 22182-3817.** Telephone calls should be directed to McGinn & Gibb, PLLC at (703) 761-4100.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of Sole
or First Inventor ___Koichi Nagaki_____

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

Residence _Tsurugashima-shi, Saitama, Japan_____

Citizenship__Japan_____

Post Office Address__c/o Corporate Research and Development Laboratory, Pioneer Corporation, 6-1-1, Fujimi,_____
Tsurugashima-shi, Saitama 350-2288 Japan_____

Full Name of Second
Joint Inventor, If Any __Kazunori Matsuo_____

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

Residence _Kawagoe-shi, Saitama, Japan_____

Citizenship__Japan_____

Post Office Address__c/o Pioneer Corporation Kawagoe Works, 25-1, Aza Nishi-machi, Ohaza Yamada_____
Kawagoe-shi, Saitama, Japan_____

Full Name of Third
Joint Inventor, If Any __Keiichi Yamauchi_____

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

Residence _Tsurugashima-shi, Saitama, Japan_____

Citizenship__Japan_____

Post Office Address__c/o Corporate Research and Development Laboratory, Pioneer Corporation, 6-1-1, Fujimi,_____
Tsurugashima-shi, Saitama 350-2288 Japan_____

Full Name of Fourth
Joint Inventor, If Any __Michihiro Kaneko_____

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

Residence _Tsurugashima-shi, Saitama, Japan_____

Citizenship__Japan_____

Post Office Address__c/o Corporate Research and Development Laboratory, Pioneer Corporation, 6-1-1, Fujimi,_____
Tsurugashima-shi, Saitama 350-2288 Japan_____

(An additional sheet(s) is/are attached hereto if the present invention includes more than four inventors.)

*Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56:

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith toward the Patent and Trademark Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and (1) it establishes by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability; or (2) it refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in: (i) opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or (ii) asserting an argument of patentability.

Full Name of Fifth
Joint Inventor, If Any   __Tomo Watanabe__

Inventor's Signature _____   Date _____

Residence _Tsurugashima-shi, Saitama, Japan_____

Citizenship__Japan_____

Post Office Address__c/o Corporate Research and Development Laboratory, Pioneer Corporation, 6-1-1, Fujimi,_____
Tsurugashima-shi, Saitama 350-2288 Japan_____

Full Name of Sixth
Joint Inventor, If Any _____

Inventor's Signature _____   Date _____

Residence _____

Citizenship_____

Post Office Address_____
_____

Full Name of Seventh
Joint Inventor, If Any _____

Inventor's Signature _____   Date _____

Residence _____

Citizenship_____

Post Office Address_____
_____

Full Name of Eighth
Joint Inventor, If Any _____

Inventor's Signature _____   Date _____

Residence _____

Citizenship_____

Post Office Address_____
_____

Full Name of Ninth
Joint Inventor, If Any _____

Inventor's Signature _____   Date _____

Residence _____

Citizenship_____

Post Office Address_____
_____